

REMARKS

Claims 9-13, 20, 30, 32 and 34-39 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1-8, 14-19, 21-29, 31 and 33 have been canceled.

The Abstract of the disclosure has been amended to include features of the presently claimed invention.

The Abstract now recites a method of (1) forming ultrafine copper oxide by reducing a cuprous carboxyl compound in an aqueous solution, with hydrazine and/or a hydrazine derivative [see claim 30 as originally filed], optionally with a base [see 0055 of PG Pub 2006/0098065] and optionally with organic compounds, such as alcohol (e.g., ethylene glycol or ethanol), ether, ester or amide [see 0045 of PG Pub 2006/0098065]; and simultaneously or separately applying an agglomerating force [see claims 6 and 7 as originally filed], e.g., agglomerating agent [see claim 36 as originally filed]; to produce copper oxide soft agglomerate.

The Abstract also recites a method of (2) forming a colloidal dispersion of cuprous oxide ultrafine particles by heating and reducing at least one copper compound (e.g., copper carboxyl, copper alkoxy and copper diketonate compound) at a temperature of not lower than 160 °C [see claim 37 as originally filed] and forming a soft agglomerate by either further heating the colloidal dispersion [see claim 35 as originally filed] or by adding an agglomerating agent, e.g., monoalcohol, ether, ester, nitrite, amide and imide [see claim 38 as originally filed]. Colloidal dispersions are formed by separating and redispersing the soft agglomerate [see 0111 of PG Pub 2006/0098065]. Cuprous oxide ultrafine particles are used as fillers, such as electroconductive paste and electroconductive ink, and manufacture of copper-oxide ultrafine particle colloid dispersion liquid used as inkjet ink [see 0001 of PG Pub 2006/0098065].

Claim 20 has been amended for clarity.

No new matter has been added by way of the above-amendment.

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that all pending claims have been allowed.

Interview

Applicants note with appreciation the courtesies extended by the Examiner during the telephone conversation with Applicants' representative, Garth M. Dahlen, Ph.D., Esq. (#43575)

on March 18, 2010. The Examiner indicated that the above-amendment to the abstract and claim 20 would place the application in condition for allowance.

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner objects to the Abstract of the Disclosure for not reciting the processes, the type of the reaction, reagents and process conditions.

In response, Applicants have amended the Abstract to include features requested by the Examiner.

It is noted from MPEP 608.01 that:

The purpose of the abstract is to enable the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the public generally to determine quickly from a cursory inspection the nature and gist of the technical disclosure.

The above-amendment has been made to the Abstract to disclose the nature and gist of the technical disclosure of the present application. The above-amendment to the Abstract does not increase or decrease the scope of the invention in any way.

Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Garth M. Dahlen, PhD, Registration No. 43575 at the telephone number of the undersigned below to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge any fees required during the pendency of the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

Dated: March 19, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Attachment: Abstract of the Disclosure (clean copy)